

SPRINGFIELD



SCENE

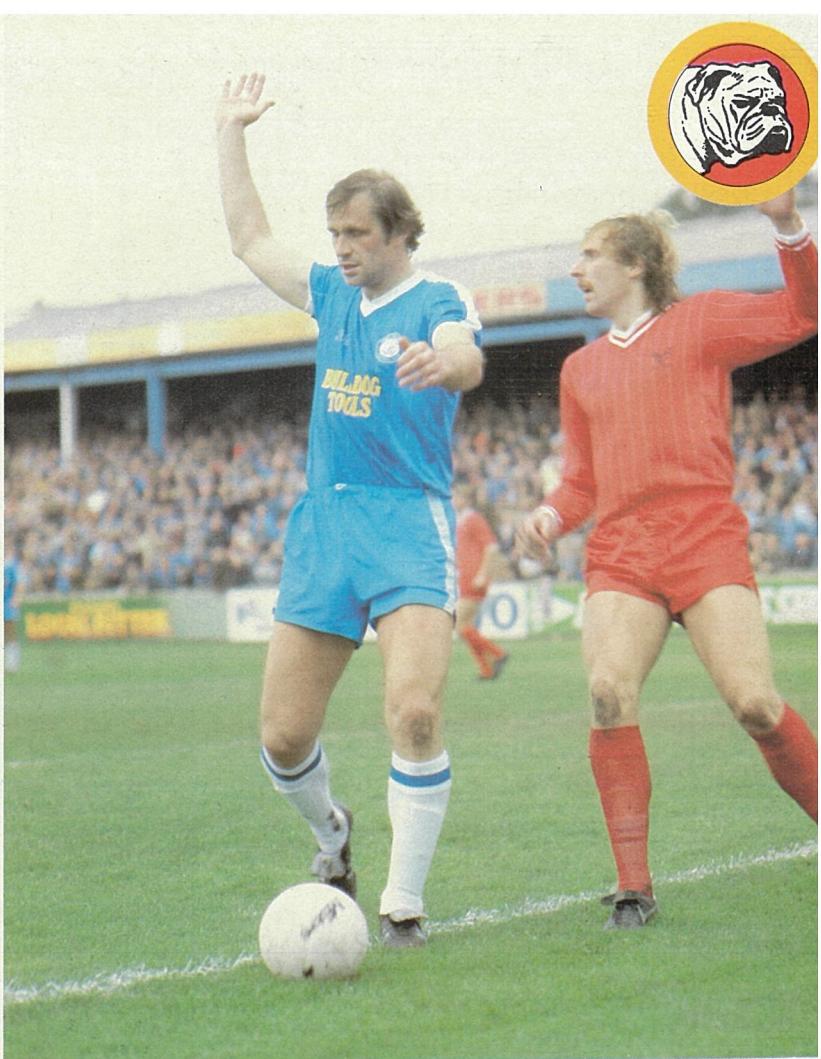
THE OFFICIAL
PROGRAMME
OF WIGAN
ATHLETIC 40p

Saturday, 26th February, 1983 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- BRISTOL ROVERS

Today's match is sponsored by J.E.M. Spares (Motor Factors)



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Bill Mitchell

Head Groundsman Wigan Athletic A.F.C.
& Consultant to Wembley

LARRY



LLOYD

GOOD afternoon. I cannot welcome you personally to Springfield Park because, as you are no doubt aware, I am not able to be at today's game, but through the wonders of the telephone, I have been able to dictate this column.

The events of the last week have been traumatic for the club. The fact that the three young lads turned down moves to Chelsea has obviously please me in one way, but the harsh realities of football suggest that they may eventually leave Wigan Athletic. The realities are not just financial, but also concern the future of the lads themselves. They way they are developing, they look capable of being top class players and, in football, that means that top class teams will be after them. You will all remember watching Mark Chamberlain playing for Port Vale last year but he was so

outstripping the Potteries club that he had to move up, with the result that he gained an England shirt soon after. But I would make two points; the first is that if and when any of our young players leave I will do all in my power to make sure that any move is right for the players and financially beneficial to the club. The second point is that if any of you have been watching the Reserves, you may just have noticed that we have a few more potentially top-class players on our books and it is now up to me and my staff to keep bringing them through not, as some people suggest, just to sell them, but to try and balance their rise through the game with that of the Club. It is only when you get into the Second Division that you can really keep all your young staff and we have to make sure that we get there so that their career and the clubs development coincide. Believe me when I tell you, I will not sell you, the supporters short, but you must bear with me and the Directors in our struggle to survive these most trying of times.

From a personal view, I came out of hospital yesterday after having two discs removed from my back and hope to be back in the swing of things shortly.

On a final note, I must express my thanks to Harry McNally, who is getting more grey hairs by the minute, for looking after things whilst I was away. When he agreed to hold the fort, I'll bet he didn't realise it was the Alamo!

Best wishes,

Larry Lloyd.



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J.A. Eckersley
R. Kay, F.C.A.
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THIRD DIVISION

Round Up

by Harold Ashurst

THE financial crisis in soccer is biting deep into another Third Division Club.

Wrexham have announced more cuts in their secretarial and playing staff after a "rescue deal" with a Canadian millionaire seems to have fallen through.

The mystery man was expected to pay off the club's overdraft of £430,000 but Wrexham chairman Fred Tomlinson said the negotiations were taking too long and the club couldn't wait any longer.

The Welsh club are now almost certain to have to sell goalkeeper Eddie Niedzwiecki at a cut-price figure of less than £50,000 and the directors have decided to launch an alternative rescue plan.

The atmosphere is slightly different at high-flying Huddersfield who sped off for a four-day sunshine break in Southern Spain before their recent game against Millwall.

The trip certainly paid rich dividends. When Huddersfield returned they promptly thrashed Millwall 5-1 in front of the watching television cameras.

Doncaster have signed former Leeds United, Bristol City and Barnsley midfielder Jimmy Mann on contract until the end of the season.

Mann played two games for Fourth Division Scunthorpe on a non-contract basis recently after being released by Barnsley, but has decided to team up with Billy Bremner at Belle Vue.

Chesterfield have raided Nottingham Forest once more in a bid to lift themselves up the table.

After getting Calvin Plummer, Steve Kendall and an amount of cash for midfielder Danny Wilson when he joined Forest, Brian Clough obliged Chesterfield once more when he let them have Nigel Thrower on a month's loan.

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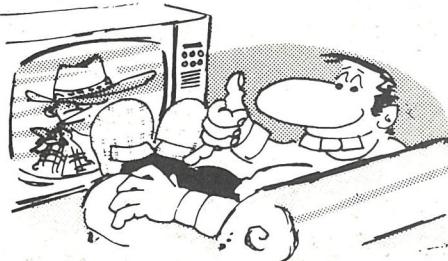
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Home		2-2-4-3-0-0-3-1	2-0	1-0-3-3-1-1	5-1-1-1-3-4-2	3-0-2-0	2-1	2-0-0-1-0-1	1-0-3-1-1	2-0-1-0	1-2-4-0-1-3	3-0-3-2	3-0	2-0-1-2-0-5-2	2-0-5-1	3-0	1-0-3-1	2-0	1-1-0-0-0-2-3-0	3-2	1-0-1-1-0-1-0-0	4-2	3-1-2-4-1-0-0	2-0	3-1-3-2-1-2
BOURNEMOUTH		2-2-4-3-0-0-3-1	2-0	1-0-3-3-1-1	5-1-1-1-3-4-2	3-0-2-0	2-1	2-0-0-1-0-1	1-0-3-1-1	2-0-1-0	1-2-4-0-1-3	3-0-3-2	3-0	2-0-1-2-0-5-2	2-0-5-1	3-0	1-0-3-1	2-0	1-1-0-0-0-2-3-0	3-2	1-0-1-1-0-1-0-0	4-2	3-1-2-4-1-0-0	2-0	3-1-3-2-1-2
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COMING UP NEXT

Tuesday, 1st March, 1983.

PORTSMOUTH -v- WIGAN ATHLETIC

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE



Saturday, 5th March, 1983.

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- READING

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE



Saturday, 12th March, 1983

NEWPORT COUNTY -v- WIGAN ATHLETIC

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE



Saturday, 19th March, 1983

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- ORIENT

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

LATICS AWAY

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Leave by M6 South to Junction 8

Branch left to join M5 to Junction 11

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At next roundabout follow signs Cirencester A417.

Cirencester

Follow signs Swindon A419 and later Hungerford then Marlborough A345 Marlborough

Follow signs Andover along A346, A338, A346, A342, A303

Andover

Follow signs Winchester A303 and later join A34 (Junction for) Winchester

Forward (signposted Southampton)

In 3 miles join A33 then later follow signs

Portsmouth A333 Wickham

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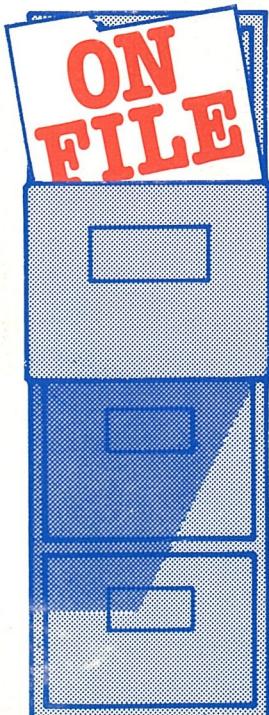
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"MAKE no mistake about it, Football League clubs at the moment are facing a financial crisis out of which many of them will not emerge". That was a statement made by a member of the League Management Committee at the start of the season and I, like many, thought it was yet another cry of wolf. But life behind the scenes at most clubs since Christmas has become akin to a nightmare. In my ring rounds and visits to other secretaries all the signs are the same; bags under the eyes, stacks of final demands on desks and no improvement in sight. Many clubs have stopped sending their visitors' share of the gate or the 4% levy to the Football League, preferring to let the wrath of the League rather than that of their bank managers.

Other measures being taken no longer providing match-day programmes, cutting down on pre-match meals and over-night stops, the sale of training pitches and the laying-off of non-playing staff. One First Division side (the last one you would expect) is now putting 40 watt bulbs in its internal lights instead of 60 watt (they replaced the 100 watt bulbs last year)!

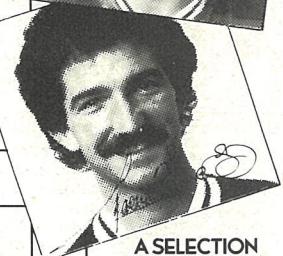
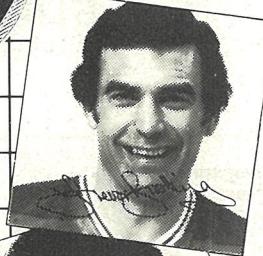
But still no-one has gone bust. People who have been in the game a good deal longer than me believe that this time, the number of millionaires and consortia ready to bail out clubs is not going to meet the need. Here in Wigan, plenty of people still remember Wigan Borough crying "wolf" and six months later it got eaten by one, so let nobody think it cannot happen.

With gates down, lotteries floundering and bank-interest eating into clubs accounts, Directors are running out of ideas. The transfer market is flat, not only because of the lack of finance but also because of the loan system which is permitting clubs to strengthen their playing staffs without any capital expenditure, and permits the lending clubs to reduce their wage bill, even if only for a month.

The point about my moaning on about the dire straits which we are all in is not to seek sympathy, but only to bring home the fact to you, the Latics supporters, that things are desperate, so desperate that at times we back-ground staff don't know which way to turn. But, and this is the strange thing, morale amongst us has rarely been higher. That dependable human characteristic of laughing in the face of adversity has appeared behind the scenes at Springfield Park and that, coupled with the determination of the gallant band enables me to assure you all that none of the non-playing staff are looking to get away. None of us are throwing in the towel, or running home to mother. We'll still be here, just as our loyal fans will still be here, for as long as it takes to get things right. I just wish that the better times which must surely come could hurry up a bit.

Cheers,

Colin Burke.



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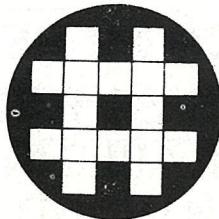
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ACCESS

VISA



PUZZLE PAGE



ON THE BALL No. 20

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

---Isidoro, Brazil; Graham the breadman; Birmingham City, for example; --- Nicholas.

CLUB CLUE No. 20

Solve this cryptic clue to identify a famous foreign club:
Brazilians name go as an alternative.

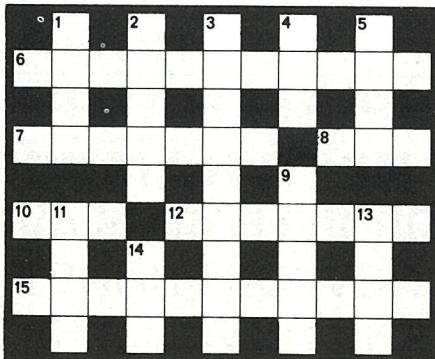
MIXED DOUBLES No. 20

Re-order the letters in each of the words HERON and MISS to find the names of two men called John.

QUICK QUIZ No. 20

- Glenn Hoddle scored in 'both' 1982 FA Cup finals — who had been the last to do it?
- Who managed Scotland in the 1974 World Cup finals?
- Which club did Ron Greenwood mainly play for?
- What did old star Billy Meredith invariably chew?
- Which club did Frank O'Farrell manage in three spells?

Answers on page 12.



SOCER NINETY-NINER

No. 20 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

- Peterborough's regular keeper last season, he moved to Northampton and was a professional foul 'off' victim on the opening day (4,7)
- Someone having this sort of game obviously knocks the spectators' eyes out! (7)
- Mulhearn, keeper with over 600 League games to his credit (3)
- Seasonal hazard in mid season (3)
- Bristol City veteran (over 400 appearances) who was one of their bought-out players (7)
- Much-sought source of cash (11)

DOWN

- Charlie or Graham or Norman or ... (4)
- Roeder, perhaps (5)
- Forward seen in action with Hull, Sunderland, Derby and Swindon (9)
- Common colour for a linesman's flag (3)
- Manager Bassett, maybe (4)
- Despite his name, this inside-forward was a Scot; he served Millwall first and last and in between turned out for Torquay, Plymouth and Bournemouth (5)
- Goalkeepers wearing them aren't necessarily internationals! (4)
- Steele, say (4)
- The number of times a Scottish club won the Anglo-Scottish Cup (3)



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THE LOCAL VIEW



BY GEOFF KEMP

THE prestigious Lancashire Football Association Youth Cup is on its way to the Wigan Amateur League.

Birchley Youth and Chorley Youth both won their semi-finals last week and so the fellow Wigan Amateur Leaguers will contest the final.

Birchley beat Barrow Youth at the weekend to claim their place alongside Chorley Youth, who had defeated Eccleston Youth earlier in the week. Both teams are in the Youth Division of the Amateur League.

The final should be a terrific match since the pedigree of the two teams is admirable. Chorley have won the trophy for the past two seasons, while Birchley currently lead the Youth Division by a four point margin.

It is the first time the Amateur League have had two teams in the final, and the first time any League has done so since the Bolton Boys' Confederation provided both finalists way back in 1959-60.

The fifties were golden years in the competition for the Amateur League too, with the now defunct Stubshaw Cross Boys taking the trophy twice and Moss Lane winners in 1959-59. But the eighties look

like being even brighter with wins for the League in 1980-81, 81-82, and now a guaranteed victory in 1982-83.

The date and venue of the final is still to be decided, and one option being considered is to have it here at Springfield Park, and I will give you details of the final decision as soon as it is made.

There was cup excitement elsewhere in the Amateur League's own Laithwaite Shield, with a first round match proving easily worthy of a final.

Wigan Amateur League leaders Bethel and second-placed Aspull clashed — and produced a 4-4 scoreline after 120 minutes of thrilling football.

Goals from Pearson and Hurst took Bethel into a 2-0 lead but Aspull began to pull back with a 71st minute goal from Shaw. Rigby then equalised only for Robins to restore Bethel's lead, but Harrison then hammered the ball through a crowd of players to take the game into extra time. A Birchall goal then gave Aspull the lead for the first time before Parry made the score 4-4 — and provided the prospect of another superb game in the replay.

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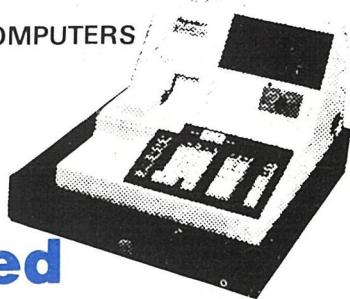
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MATCH DAY PROGRAMME

Please send all your messages for the "Personal Column" to Helen Turner, Commercial Department, Wigan Athletic A.F.C., Springfield Park, Wigan, or telephone Wigan 43067.

SOLUTIONS TO PUZZLE PAGE
SOCCER NINETY-NINER No. 20 — Across — 6. Neil Freeman, 7. blinder, 8. Ken, 10. ice, 12. Sweeney, 15. sponsorship. Down: 1. Bell, 2. Glenn, 3. Greenwood, 4. red, 5. Dave, 9. Welsh, 11. caps, 13. Eric, 14. one (St. Mirren, 1980). ON THE BALL No. 20 — Paulo, Baker, Blues, Peter. CLUB CLUE No. 20 — Flamengo (anag). MIXED DOUBLES No. 20 — Horne, Sims. QUICK QUIZ No. 20 — Mick Jones (1970), 2. Willie Ormond, 3. Brentford, 4. A toothpick, 5. Torquay United.

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Alex Cribley drives in a powerful shot against Exeter. Photo by courtesy of Mr. C.J. Higgins.

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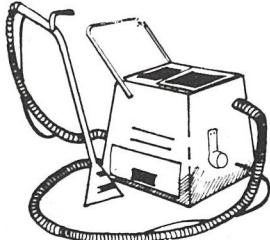
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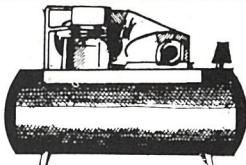
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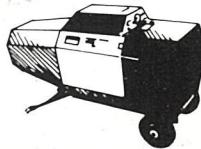


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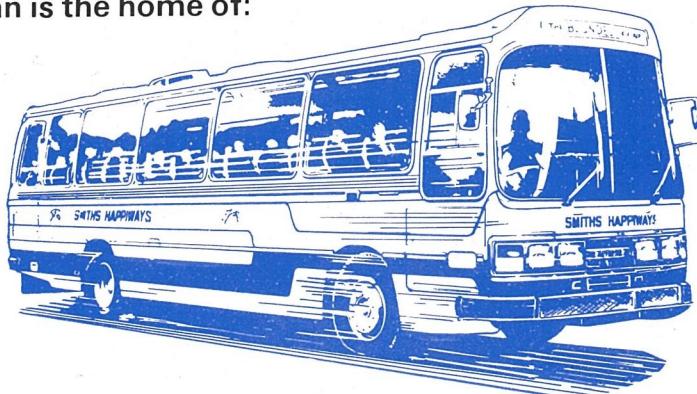
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BRISTO



BRISTOL ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB — SEASON 1982-83

Back Row (Left to right): Steve Bailey, Tim Parkin, Ray Cashley, Graham Withey, Phil. Kite, Keith Cur...
Row: Steve Balcombe, Archie Stephens, Mark Hughes, Paul Randall, Aidan McCaffery, Neil Slat...
Front Row: Ian Holloway, Errington Kelly, Brian Williams, David Williams, Mike Barrett, Ger... Sherwood.

BRISTOL Rovers were formed in 1883 and at that time had the name of Black Arabs. In 1884 they changed their name to Eastville Rovers, in 1897 to Bristol Eastville Rovers and in 1898 to their present title of Bristol Rovers. They were original members

of the Third Division (South) in 1920 and gained promotion to Division Two in 1953.

Their ground, known as Bristol Stadium, Eastville, has a ground capacity of only 12,500, but it can accommodate over 7,000 under

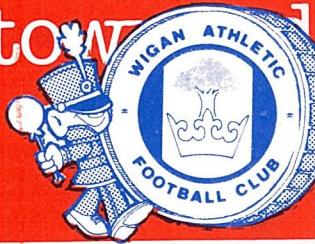
cover. The pitch is 110 yds. x 70 yds.

In 1952/53 Bristol Rovers went 27 games without a win, but they did the same again in 1962/63.

We welcome you to our

... in town today... in town

L ROVERS



le, David Smith. 2nd
ter, Nick Platnauer.
aint Williams, Jeff

measurements being
ds.
Bristol Rovers created
n record when they
es without defeat —
me in 1973/74.
e their players and

officials for their first ever game at Springfield Park today.

PAUL KITE (Goalkeeper) Local lad, aged 20, superbly confident and with an ideal build for his position. Made his first team debut two seasons ago while still an apprentice, and already has England Youth caps to his credit. Height 6'1½". Weight 14st. 7lbs.

NEIL SLATTER (Full Back) Created a Rovers' post-war record in April 1981 when he made his League debut as an apprentice at the age of 16 years 314 days. This stylish teenager from Cardiff also played for the Welsh Youth team for two seasons. Height 5'11". Weight 10st. 8½lbs.

TIM PARKIN (Centre Half) Mature 24-year-old, recruited in the summer of 1981 from crack Swedish club Malmo for a give-away £15,000, who has brought stability to Rovers' back-four. Born at Penrith in Cumbria, he served his soccer apprenticeship with Blackburn Rovers before going to Sweden early in 1980. Height 6'2". Weight 13st. 3lbs.

AIDAN McCAFFERY (Defender or Midfield) Former Newcastle United, Derby County and England Youth international, signed for £70,000 three summers ago. Aged 25, this Geordie has a refreshing zest to join in attack, and is a frequent scorer. Height 5'11". Weight 11st. 5lbs.

DAVID WILLIAMS (Midfield) Club Captain. An intelligent 27-year-old from Cardiff who qualified as a schoolmaster before becoming a full-timer four summers ago. His creative passing and explosive shooting led to his earning the Daily Star-Corals Third Division Player Award last season. A fully qualified F.A. coach. Height 5'10". Weight 11st. 8lbs.

BRIAN WILLIAMS (Midfield) This enthusiastic 26-year-old Manchunian was signed from Swindon

Town during the 1981 close-season. Only natural left-sided player on Rovers' books. Also had spells with Bury and Queens Park Rangers. Height 5'8". Weight 12st. 2lbs.

IAN HOLLOWAY (Midfield) A promising 19-year-old Bristolian who joined Rovers as an apprentice straight from school and has already tasted League soccer. Now on the brink of establishing himself as a regular. Height 5'7½". Weight 9st. 11½lbs.

NICK PLATNAUER (Midfield) Another non-League recruit. This strong 21-year-old, who played in Bedford Town's 1981 Southern League Cup-winning team, joined Rovers on a free transfer in the summer. Height 5'11". Weight 12st. 10lbs.

MIKE BARRETT (Winger) A 23-year-old ball playing winger, equally at home on either flank, signed from Bristol amateur club Shirehampton three years ago. With Bristol City as a schoolboy, he has now gained a reputation as one of the most subtle wingers outside the First Division. Height 5'10". Weight 10st. 10lbs.

PAUL RANDALL (Striker) A goalscoring sensation when Rovers plucked him from the obscurity of Western League football in 1977, he was sold to Stoke City for £200,000 two years later. Rovers' fans paid most of the £55,000 fee required to bring him back to Eastville in January 1981. Aged 24. Height 5'11". Weight 12st. 12lbs.

ARCHIE STEPHENS (Striker) Another prolific scorer from Western League soccer. Rovers signed him from Melksham Town at the beginning of last season. Aged 28, he was played in parks football in his hometown of Liverpool four years ago. Height 5'11". Weight 12st. 8lbs.

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***R.A.C.

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AUTUMN 1983 - SEPTEMBER 11th - OCTOBER 28th - From £58.75 plus V.A.T.

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AND FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST

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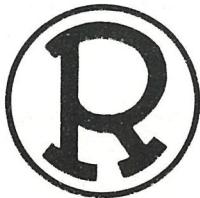
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MARCH DATES

Hi! March promises to be one of our busiest months of the season, with three events to be organised, so if I were you, I'd make a note of the following dates, you can't afford to miss them!

MONDAY, MARCH 7th
JUNIOR LATICS MEETING
EAMON O'KEEFE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST STAR
NEW TOP PRIZE QUIZ
VOTE FOR PLAYER OF SEASON
COCA COLA PRESENTATIONS

TUESDAY, MARCH 15th
BOB WARD
TESTIMONIAL MATCH
COME AND SEE OUR
OWN JUNIOR LATICS AS WELL AS
ENGLAND'S TOP
INTERNATIONAL STARS

SUNDAY, MARCH 13th

DISCO ★ DISCO
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Sunday, March 13th 1.00 - 3.00 pm
WIGAN ATHLETIC
SUPPORTERS CLUB
MEMBERS 20p.
NON-MEMBERS 30p.

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BETWEEN THE AGES OF 13 - 17

STOP PRESS!!

What a fantastic response to our latest sessions of Coke awards.

MASCOT

Our mascot for today is Andrew O'Neill. Andrew attends Whalley Middle School, and his hobbies include football and snooker. He is also in St. Catharine's Church, Wigan, 5th Boys Brigade Company. Favourite players — Eamon O'keefe and Peter Houghton. Have a nice day Andrew.

John Fillingham, Chairman.



JUNIOR LATICS



-Half Time Gossip

OUR match ball sponsor for today is Mr. Frederick Parr, a regular programme subscriber, from Antwerp, Belgium. Mr. Parr's family have had connections with Wigan Athletic over the past 50 years. His grandfather is 90 years of age, lives at Hindley and was watching Wigan Borough before the present club was formed. Up to and including the current season he has been a terrace spectator, although his advancing years have prevented him from coming to every home match. One one occasion there were four generations of Parr's watching the same game this season, grandfather, father, son and grandson!

* * *

Many thanks to our match sponsor, J.E.M. Spares (Motor Factors) of Worthington Street, off Market Street, Hindley. They are one of the leading motor factors in the town and should you need to purchase any spares or equipment, do not hesitate to give them a ring on Wigan 54224/55357. Full details of their products can be found on page 22.

* * *

England skipper Brian Robson in a Wigan Athletic shirt? Never, you may think, but you'd be wrong. Bryan is lined up to play for a Latics team against West Bromwich in a testimonial game for ex-goalie Bob Ward who was forced to retire through injury last year. Also lining up will be Everton's Peter Reid and a certain R. Charlton.

Tranmere Rovers have applied to the League for permission to lay an all-weather pitch at Prenton Park. The scheme is to enable the Wirral Council to use the ground for all kinds of events. The Council has loaned the club £200,000 already. Football League regulations insist that other clubs have a right to object to the laying of omni-turf at League grounds and all clubs have been asked for their comments. Latics are not expected to raise any objections.

* * *

Football matches without programmes? That is the prospect at a number of clubs next season. Bradford City Secretary Terry Newman, speaking after the game against Cardiff City for which no programme was produced states, "We lose money on every issue and are looking at just producing team sheets next year, as are a number of clubs".

When approached on the matter, Latics Secretary Colin Burke said: "The amount of colour in our programme may have to be reduced next year if gates fall, but the content will not. I think a programme is an essential part of going to the match". "We agree, Mr. Burke".

* * *

Ex Latics players in the news; Mickey Moore has gone to Southport on a months loan from Barrow; Mick Worswick has left his post as reserve team manager of Barrow to become the new boss of North West Counties League side, Lytham.

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PERSONAL COLUMN

Happy 14th Birthday for the 27th February to Neal. Love and best wishes from Mum, Dad and Paul.

Congratulations to Peter Sudworth, 18-years-old on the 28th February. Best wishes from the staff at Springfield Park.

Happy Birthday Monica on the 21st February, from all your family. Favourite player—John Butler.

Pre-League Wigan Athletic programmes for sale. Write to Mr. Turner, 9 Roeburn Walk, Platt Bridge, Wigan.

EVERTON PROGRAMME FAIR

To be held in the Everton Cabaret Lounge, Goodison Park, Sunday, 27th February, from 11.00 a.m. until 3.00 p.m.

Some 100,000 soccer and Rugby League programmes will be on sale, including many Latics home and away issues from the 1940's to date.

Stall-holders are travelling from all over the country and it should prove of interest to all collectors, be they beginners or serious

collectors. The first 100 entrants will also receive a free programme bundle. Admission is by programme available at the door, price 20 pence. All collectors attending have the chance to win a portable black and white television in a Soccer Quiz competition.

Happy Birthday Mrs. Alice Parr of Tyldesley, from Dad, Fred & Rosette, Pat, Clive, David and Michael, Roland and Clifford.

Happy 16th Birthday to Andrew Galligan. Love from Mum, Dad and Catherine.

Birthday Greetings to Susan Taylor from Junior Latics.

Birthday Greetings to Susan from Les.

DON'T FORGET This is a free service for Latics Supporters. All messages should be handed in, or 'phoned through to the Club by the Monday morning before Saturday, and the Friday morning before mid-week games. Please make your messages as short as possible.

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ABOVE: Eamon O'Keefe on target against Exeter.

BELOW: John Butler attacking the Exeter Defence. Photo's by courtesy of Mr. C.J. Higgins.





Peter Houghton breaks through in the game against Exeter. Photo by courtesy of Mr. C.J. Higgins.



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Player Profile

Ken Banks

KENNY BANKS

THERE is a rumour going round the Club that the sudden influx of scouts from top League clubs have not come to watch our young players, but rather they have come to watch the fastest trainer in the Third Division — Kenny Banks. At the first sign of an injury to one of the Latics lads Kenny is up out of the dug-out, bag in hand, and off like a hare across the turf. Statisticians have clocked him at a speed equivalent to a Honda 50 in top gear and it is quite probable that Arsenal will come in with a bid for him soon.

But there were times in Kenny's playing career when big clubs were keen to sign him as a strong left-half. Like many a Latics player, he represented the town whilst a schoolboy. But it was not until he had left school and started an apprenticeship at Worsley Mesnes Iron Works as a fitter that League clubs started to notice the stocky young Wiganer who could kick well with either foot. Bolton and Southport were in a race to sign him and Southport it was who got his signature. In those days immediately after the war, it was normal for youngsters to play as amateurs in the League until their clubs had assessed them properly and this was the case with Kenny. In his pre-season games prior to the 1947/48 kick-off, he so impressed the fans and management that he was signed professional, much to the annoyance of Aston Villa who were keen to take him to Villa Park.

The young Wigan lad insisted on keeping up his job outside football and only played as a part-time pro. for the Haig Avenue outfit. After three years there, however, he was forced to make an important decision — Southport had placed him on the market at £1,000 and

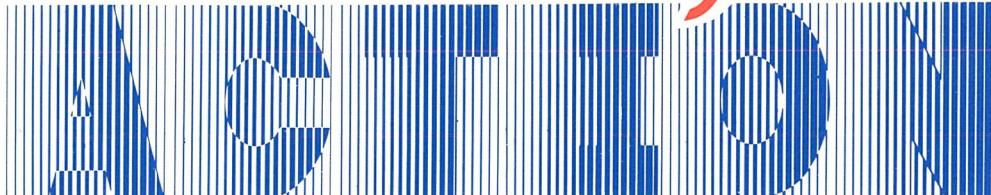


various clubs were interested. But they wanted him as a full-timer. "It would have meant leaving Wigan", he recalls, "and living in digs in either Walsall or Hull. By that time I had a wife and a baby daughter, so I decided to stay in Wigan". For a month or so, he turned his back on football, took a job with Plessey's and lived the quiet life. "Then Ted Goodier, the Latics manager, grabbed me in King Street, and I've been here ever since!" In the years at Springfield Park, Kenny enjoyed his best moments in football. The Latics won the Lancashire Combination three years running, went up to St. James' Park and drew with the then mighty Newcastle United ("We should have won", he insists), and, all in all, proved that they were one of the best non-League sides in the history of the game.

After his playing career was over, Kenny Banks stayed with the Latics and has been trainer, coach, physiotherapist, temporary manager, the lot! And when election to the League came along, for the first time in his career he accepted a full-time job in football. "After forty years in a factory", he says, "I thought I'd had enough. And the thought of training the lads every day was too good to miss".

One of the Latics greatest ever servants, Kenny looks back on his life with the club with fond memories. "We've always had great lads at this club, and great fans. Wigan Athletic has always been a great club and always will be. Nobody should forget that". In these trying times at Springfield Park, we would all do well to realise the truth of Kenny Banks' words and to realise that it is people like him that have made it such a fine club.

Central League



Wigan Athletic 2 Oldham Athletic 0

Tuesday, 22nd February, 1983

"One of the finest goals seen at Springfield Park" was how one fan described a Phil Williams goal which gave the Latics a 2-0 victory over Joe Royle's Oldham Athletic. The goal came ten minutes from time when a searching pass from Kevin Langley was met by the speedy Welshman Williams just outside the box. He beat one man, got to the line and seemed about to cross it but instead knocked the ball through an advancing defenders legs and, running parallel with the line, hit a left footed shot into the top far corner of the net. A goal which would have been shown on T.V. for a long time to come, it sealed a fine performance by the Wigan side. Oldham had first team regular Roger Wyld at number nine and he surely cannot have expected such a hard time against young Steve Walsh, who showed, yet again, that he is potentially a First Division player. With Roy Tunks in goal, the Latics were seldom troubled and when Oldham's best chance came, with full-back Barlow beating the off-side trap and with a clear run at goal, Tunks pulled off a great save.

Latics first goal brought back memories of last season with a Sheldon corner to the near post. Instead of Lloyd and Barrow working the back header into the danger area it was Steve Walsh who sent over a looping back header for Mark Schofield to run onto and head home.

With fine performances all round, the young Latics were worthy of the ovation given at the end by the small but loyal crowd. And the standard of the Williams goal can be measured by the fact that as the final whistle blew, a number of young lads ran on to the pitch to pat him on the back — not a scene often witnessed in reserve team football anywhere.

Wigan Athletic team					
		Tunks			
Hatton		Schofield		Walsh	Aspinall
Williams			Langley		Conning
Sheldon			Phillips L.		Lowe
Sub: Wilson.					

NEXT HOME MATCHES

Tuesday, March 8th, 1983 7.00 p.m.

Wigan Athletic v. Notts County

Tuesday, March 29th, 1983 7.00 p.m.

Wigan Athletic v. Nottingham Forest

Supporters Club

SPOTLIGHT

GOOD afternoon. Welcome to Bristol Rovers A.F.C. to Springfield Park today. We hope we will witness a very entertaining game, with hopefully, a reversal of the result at Eastville earlier in the season.

ENTERTAINMENT

Tonight we have the very talented Vicky Bennett on stage. If past performances by Vicky are anything to go by, we should have a really great night! Admission 10 pence Members — 20 pence non-Members.

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Chris. Coffey, Chairman.

FACTS + FIGURES

Home fixtures in capitals

Player scoring bold

re indicates no. of goals scored by player.

				</																											

THIRD DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE

as at Sunday, 20th February, 1983.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff City	31	12	2	1	31	11	6	3	7	25	30	59
Portsmouth	29	11	0	2	28	12	7	4	5	22	20	58
Lincoln City	28	12	0	2	41	11	5	4	5	17	18	55
Huddersfield Town	29	10	4	0	40	11	5	4	6	16	21	53
Bristol Rovers	30	12	2	2	44	13	3	3	8	19	26	50
Newport County	30	8	6	2	28	15	6	2	6	23	22	50
Oxford United	28	6	7	0	25	14	7	1	7	21	20	47
Plymouth Argyle	29	11	1	3	26	15	2	4	8	17	30	44
Southend United	29	9	4	3	32	17	3	2	8	12	19	42
WIGAN ATHLETIC	30	9	1	6	28	21	4	2	8	20	27	42
Bradford City	30	8	5	2	31	19	2	5	8	16	28	40
Gillingham	30	7	3	4	22	16	3	6	7	13	19	39
Wrexham	30	8	4	3	23	11	1	7	7	12	32	38
Brentford	30	9	2	4	38	21	1	5	9	22	34	37
Sheffield United	26	9	3	3	27	14	1	4	6	8	18	37
AFC Bournemouth	31	6	5	3	21	12	3	4	10	14	40	36
Exeter City	32	7	4	5	33	29	1	7	8	23	42	35
Orient	29	7	3	5	26	26	3	1	10	9	34	34
Chesterfield	30	6	3	6	23	16	2	6	7	13	25	33
Walsall	29	7	4	4	18	15	1	5	8	17	31	33
Reading	30	7	4	4	26	20	1	5	9	17	37	33
Doncaster Rovers	30	5	8	2	34	27	2	1	12	11	33	30
Millwall	29	5	6	3	20	17	0	4	11	12	36	25
Preston North End	29	3	8	2	18	13	2	0	14	17	41	23

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Comments from the Chair

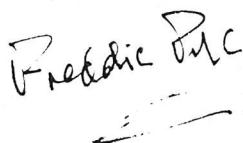


GOOD afternoon and a warm welcome to our visitors today from Bristol Rovers. I wish to take this opportunity of explaining to you, the active supporters of Wigan Athletic, the dilemma which we have found ourselves in concerning the three players that Chelsea wanted to buy. This was one situation in which we could not win. On the one hand the club desperately needed finance, on the other, nobody wanted to see these lads leave. I must state that if anybody seriously believed that I, who love football as much as anybody, wanted to see these lads go they are very much mistaken — but what is the alternative? Football clubs in the lower divisions live through selling players and all the talk about the price being too low is all well and good, but Chelsea were the only club to offer anything for them. A dozen or so clubs have watched them repeatedly but not one penny has been offered from anywhere but Stamford Bridge. With the club in such a financial state, we have to listen to any offers and I repeat, we only had one.

A supporter criticised me in a letter recently for "going on" about finances. What, I wonder, am I supposed to do? Wigan Athletic is a company, with creditors and wages and all the other financial responsibilities which companies have. As Chairman I would be neglecting my duty if I did not isolate finance as the major threat to our existence and I make no apologies on that score. With the recent news

about the Council's unwillingness to help us out, our options are closing all the time. But you can rest assured that I and my fellow Directors are doing everything in our power to get us out of the position we are in. Last year we took a gamble, pushed the boat out and, if the recession had not gripped so tight, we would have had better gates and all the benefits that should go with promotion. The Wigan public are as hard up as the rest of the country and are not in a position to come to our aid through the turnstiles, so we have to look elsewhere. That is a reality of life in football.

Enjoy the game,



Freddie Pye.



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WIGAN ATHLETIC

(Royal Blue & White Stripe)

- 1 Roy Tunks
- 2 John McMahon
- 3 Alex Cribley
- 4 Kevin Langley
- 5 Steve Walsh
- 6 Colin Methven
- 7 David Lowe
- 8 Graham Barrow
- 9 John Butler
- 10 Eamonn O'Keefe
- 11 Jimmy Weston
- 12 Peter Houghton

TEAM CHECK

OFFICIALS

Referee:
MR. G.J. NAPTHINE
(Loughborough)

Began refereeing in 1959 in Junior and Senior Leagues in Leicestershire. Promoted to Football Combination and then to the Football League in 1971. Officiated in the Anglo-Scottish Semi-Final in 1980, a European Cup Quarter-Final in 1979 and three semi-final matches in 1980. Hobbies include cricket, tennis, swimming and gardening. Married with three children and is an assistant engineer. A past Chairman of the Football Combination Referees' and Linesmen's Association, he is also a referee instructor, and Training Officer of the Midland Section Executive Committee of Football League Referees and Linesmen.

Linesmen:

(Red Flag)
Mr. E.P. O'Hare
(Barrow-in-Furness)

(Yellow Flag)
Mr. D. Tweats
(Poulton-le-Fylde)

FOR YOUR RECORDS

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ATTENDANCE

SCORERS
LATICS
VISITORS



BRISTOL ROVERS

(Orange/Navy)

- 1 Phil Kite
- 2 Neil Slatter
- 3 Brian Williams
- 4 Ian Holloway
- 5 Tim Parkin
- 6 Aidan McCaffery
- 7 Alan Ball
- 8 David Williams
- 9 Archie Stephens
- 10 Paul Randall
- 11 Mike Barrett
- 12 Nick Platnauer

"HERE NEXT"
Saturday 5th March 1983.
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
WIGAN ATHLETIC v. READING
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE